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that men like Balfour and Pringle Pattison and not a few others do not come under his double indictment of philosophy. Then, too, the author is incautious in suggesting that "the dogmas of religion have lost their hold." Rather, one would be inclined to say, that patient genius, the Average Man, is interested in seeing the "dogmas of religion" expressed in a way suitable for our age and kept in close touch with the practical and devotional religious life.

Many specialists in philosophy will gaze askance, if not in dismay, on many of Mr. More's attempts to reinterpret Plato; but the persevering general reader may well find in this stimulating book of literary excellence a stimulus to the study of Plato's own works.

T. P. B.

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A HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES SINCE THE CIVIL WAR. Vol. I.  
By Ellis Paxson Oberholtzer. New York: The Macmillan Company.  
Price \$3.50. 1917.

This work will be completed in five volumes, and it is difficult to consider it piecemeal. The volume at hand may be considered as an introduction for what is to follow, and, as such, it is admirable. In it the difficulties, political, social, and economic, which lay in the way of a complete understanding between the victorious North and the discouraged and prostrate South are shown with clearness and precision. The mass of new documentary evidence which is constantly being unearthed is bringing about a better comprehension of that greatly misunderstood man, Andrew Johnson.

We are beginning to understand better the trials which confronted him, and the courage with which he met these trials; and we are also beginning to appreciate more and more his splendid qualities, so long been entirely overshadowed by the manifest faults of temper and temperament which were the direct causes of the failure of his administration. All this Mr. Oberholtzer tells us with a fluent and powerful pen. It is a disagreeable story at best, but Mr. Oberholtzer gives us the picture with fairness and accuracy.

On the other hand, the years 1865 to 1868 are of the greatest economic importance. In them we see the laying of the Atlantic

cable, the purchase of Alaska, and the beginning of the tremendous development of the Middle and Far West. Here Mr. Oberholtzer is at his best; and here is his greatest contribution to contemporary American history. His subsequent volumes will be received with the keenest interest. F. S. H.

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RECORDS OF THE LIFE OF JESUS. By Henry Burton Sharman, Ph.D. New York: George H. Doran Company. 1917.

This work might well be called the Critical Paragraph Harmony. The Gospels according to Matthew, Mark, and Luke are here arranged in chapters and sections that follow the Chronology of Mark. The sections peculiar to Luke are so arranged that they follow one another consecutively. The Matthew-Luke parallels take the Lucan order, but the contents of paragraphs are repeated as often as necessary in such wise that one sees at a glance that italicized paragraphs are out of the chronological order observed by one or the other evangelist. The Gospel of John is put by itself, but there is a very full collection of references to the Synoptic Gospels; this, along with an index of Johannine passages according to the order of Matthew-Mark-Luke, enables the student to make a close study of the relation of the Fourth Gospel to the other three.

If one uses this admirable Harmony in company with the word-for-word comparisons of Thompson or Burton and Goodspeed, he will find his efforts to study the Gospels very greatly facilitated. T. P. B.

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THE EARLY LIFE OF ROBERT SOUTHEY. 1774-1803. By William Haller. New York: Columbia University Press. \$1.50 net.

"My purpose," writes the author in his Preface, "is merely to supply students with a faithful account of the most interesting and least known period of the life and work of an important English writer of a momentous time in history." The book covers only the first twenty-nine years of Southey's career, his boyhood and youth at school and university, and other volumes to round out the life are promised as soon as the material can be collected. The preliminary study is conscientiously done, almost